



Civic Loop

Promoting Recycling through Community Leadership



Issue 2, Volume 4
Winter 2011



Think **Green** this Holiday Season

Holiday Recycling Slide Collection Schedule

Christmas Day and New Years' Day Schedule

Since both Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on a Saturday, there are no changes to County-provided recycling or refuse collection services. Normal collections will be made the week before Christmas, the week between Christmas and New Year's Day and the week after New Year's Day.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday (Monday, January 17, 2011)

If your collection date is:	Your collection day this week is:
Monday, January 17, 2011	Tuesday, January 18, 2011
Tuesday, January 18, 2011	Wednesday, January 19, 2011
Wednesday, January 19, 2011	Thursday, January 20, 2011
Thursday, January 20, 2011	Friday, January 21, 2011
Friday, January 21, 2011	Saturday, January 22, 2011

Please remember to make sure your recycling containers are placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on your recycling collection day.

The holiday season is fast approaching. Are you ready?

Did you know that the average person throws away 25 percent more material during the holiday season than during any other time during the year? Last year, over 1.1 million tons of waste was generated in Montgomery County. That is equivalent to approximately one (1) ton or 2,000 pounds of waste generated per household. Now is a great time to think ahead and plan for those holiday gifts and parties and events to celebrate the upcoming holiday season.



Purchasing products made from recycled materials is a great way to support recycling while helping the economy. In the United States, a study conducted by the EPA in 2000 determined that an estimated 56,000 recycling-related businesses employed nearly 1.1 million people, generating a payroll of nearly \$37 billion and gross annual revenues of over \$236 billion.



Many local businesses in Montgomery County sell a variety of products made from recycled materials. Check out a local specialty, hardware, and grocery store.



Look for products identified with the recycled-content logo or the words "made with recycled materials". Novelty items such as stove top spoon holders made from recycled bottles, or coasters made out of recycled newspapers are available for purchase and make great gift ideas. The possibilities are endless. Reduce, reuse, recycle and buy recycled this holiday season and in the New Year ahead.



Examples of products made from recycled materials.

Happy New Year,

Ala Fulets
Recycling Coordinator

Recycle More Now

Montgomery County Celebrates America Recycles Day 2010

America Recycles Day is a nationally recognized day to promote recycling, waste reduction, and buying recycled-content products to close the recycling loop. Montgomery County joined hundreds of communities and organizations all across the country to celebrate America Recycles Day in which over 1,800 events were scheduled.



Montgomery County celebrated America Recycles Day with two paper shredding/recycling and clothing/household goods donation collection events over the weekend of November 13 and 14. With the help of our partners, Office Paper Systems provided shredding and recycling services and A Wider Circle and Goodwill of Greater Washington provided donation collection services. A total of 897 vehicles drove through the two events. DSWS collected a total of 28,620 pounds of personal papers for shredding and recycling. An additional 700 pounds of cardboard boxes were collected for recycling. In addition, one large box truck from Goodwill of Greater Washington and three box trucks from A Wider Circle were completely filled with donated clothing and household goods/furniture in working condition to benefit community members in need.

In addition, staff from the Division of Solid Waste Services and volunteers from the Division's Recycling Volunteer Program staffed educational tables at six locations throughout the county. A total of 248 residents received information and had their recycling questions answered during these events.



Staff from the Division of Solid Waste Services and volunteers with the Division's Recycling Volunteer Program assisted residents with shredding confidential papers and unloading clothing and household goods and furniture for donations during the Division's America Recycles Day events.

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle

Recycling and Waste Reduction Tips for the Holidays

This holiday season, think green when purchasing holiday gifts and planning for those holiday and end-of-the year parties and events. Please share these tips with your community members and encourage them to reduce waste, reuse, recycle and buy recycled during the holiday season and into the new year.

Shopping Ideas:

- ❖ When buying gifts to be mailed, select items that are easy to ship and don't require excess packaging.
- ❖ Take along reusable shopping bags from home instead of using paper or plastic shopping bags.
- ❖ Consolidate all purchases into one bag, rather than getting a new bag for each item. Ask for a bag only if necessary.
- ❖ Shop for gifts at antique stores or estate sales—one person's trash is another's treasure. Donate unwanted gifts, along with last year's gifts that the kids have outgrown or that you no longer need, to charitable organizations.

Gift Wrapping Suggestions:

- ❖ Some boxes are attractive enough that they don't need wrapping. Simply add a bow or reusable ribbon.
- ❖ Reusable gift bags can save time when wrapping gifts and can be used again.
- ❖ Try wrapping just the box top of items, rather than the entire box.
- ❖ Sunday comics, outdated maps, and reusable cloth bags make unique gift wraps. If possible, reuse wrapping paper—have scissors handy when opening gifts so that paper doesn't get damaged when tearing off tape.
- ❖ Reuse packing cartons and shipping materials such as packaging peanuts, shredded newspaper and bubble wrap. Donate excess packaging materials to local mailing centers.
- ❖ Think of giving gifts that don't have to be wrapped at all: tickets to concerts, museums, and/or sporting events, gift certificates or gift cards, and house plants.

Entertaining Tips:

- ❖ Save those leftovers after a party. Send them home with guests in reusable containers.
- ❖ Holiday cooking generates many types of containers that are acceptable for recycling in the County's recycling program. But before recycling them, think about whether some of those containers are good for saving leftovers. If so, send them home with guests, store them in the refrigerator or put them in the freezer for later.
- ❖ Rent dishes, glassware, table cloths and cloth napkins instead of using disposable items.
- ❖ Purchase food items in bulk to reduce the amount of packaging.

Keep Recycling!



During the holiday season, many more types of paper and containers are generated that can be recycled. Over the past several years, the County has expanded its recycling program to include additional types of materials. So, check to see if that item can be recycled and remind your out-of-town guests to recycle while they are visiting. For a complete list of materials that are recyclable in Montgomery County visit: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling.

Christmas Tree Recycling:

The Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services will be collecting Christmas trees for recycling collection beginning on Monday, December 27, 2010 and continuing through Friday, February 4, 2011. Residents can place their entire Christmas tree at the curb no later than 7:00 a.m. on their normal recycling collection day.



Here are some tips regarding our Christmas Tree recycling program:

- ❖ Please remove the stand and all decorations, including lights, ornaments, tinsel, and garland. Be sure there is no metal attached to the tree.
- ❖ Trees cannot be left at the curb in plastic bags.
- ❖ "Live" Christmas trees with root balls and artificial trees cannot be collected as part of this recycling program.

After February 4, 2011, Christmas trees may be recycled through the County's yard trim recycling collection program, meaning that residents must first cut the tree into smaller lengths. For more information about the Christmas tree recycling program or the County's yard trim recycling program, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling or call 3-1-1.

Recycling Old Holiday Lights:

Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling and click on "Recycle your holiday lights" to learn about opportunities to recycle old, unwanted holiday lights. Please note that holiday lights are not accepted through the County's curbside recycling program.



Winter 2011

Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services

Contact: Alan Pultyniewicz
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Important Contact Information

Division of Solid Waste Services
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850
Website: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling
Customer Service: 3-1-1
(240) 777-0311 (outside Montgomery County)
(240) 773-3556 (TTY)
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/311

County Transfer Station
(240) 777-6560

County Recycling Center
(301) 417-1433

This information is available in an alternate format by
calling Alan Pultyniewicz at (240) 777-6480.



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Calendar of Upcoming Events

Please note the following schedule changes for the Montgomery County Solid Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Center Public Unloading Facility located at 16101/16105 Frederick Road, Derwood:

Friday, December 24, 2010:

Administrative offices closed all day;
Facility drop-offs close at 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 25, 2010:

Administrative offices and facility drop-offs closed.

Sunday, December 26, 2010:

Administrative offices closed;
Normal facility drop-off operations (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).

Friday, December 31, 2010:

Administrative offices closed all day;
Facility drop-offs close at 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 1, 2011:

Administrative offices and facility drop-offs closed.

Sunday, January 2, 2011:

Administrative offices closed;
Normal facility drop-off operations (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).

Visit our website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling for a full listing of events. To schedule staff from the Division of Solid Waste Services to participate in your event, call 3-1-1.